

**Whereas**, the members of the Missouri House of Representatives hold in high esteem those Show-Me State high school athletic programs which embody the highest standards of sportsmanship, training, determination, teamwork, drive, and achievement; and

**Whereas**, the Poplar Bluff High School boys basketball team attained tremendous distinction during the 2003-2004 school year in which it rose to the highest level of state competition to claim the First Place trophy in Missouri State High School Activities Association (MSHSAA) sanctioned play at the Hearnes Center on the campus of the centrally located University of Missouri-Columbia; and

**Whereas**, the Mules' 64-56 victory over Blue Springs on Saturday March 13, 2004, resulted in the seventh MSHSAA team championship for Poplar Bluff, its first State Title since 1937, and the school's first-ever championship in a sport other than golf; and

**Whereas**, Mules basketball players have advanced to state competition seventeen times in the school's history, including the second-place 1992-1993 team and the fourth-place 2001-2003 team; and

**Whereas**, the 2003-2004 Mules boys basketball team ended the season with a 25-6 win-loss record after defeating Hazelwood Central by a score of 60-58 in Sectionals; Chaminade, 83-74, in Quarterfinals; and Lafayette (Wildwood), 72-57, in Semifinals to earn the matchup against Blue Springs; and

**Whereas**, admirably led by Head Coach John David Pattillo with contributions from Assistant Coaches Glenn Eubanks, Bill Burfield, and Mareece Webb, the 2003-2004 Mules boys basketball team consisted of seniors, Travon Battles, Devon Brown, Colbi Ellison, Anthony Gilberto, Anthony Williams, and Glen Yandell; juniors, Brad Chronister, James Dixon, Emil Fernando, Tyler Hansbrough, Clay Lawson, Todd Tinsley, and Ross Whelan; sophomores, Ben Hansbrough and Allan Spencer; and freshman Rusty Bryant:

**Now, therefore, be it resolved** that we, the members of the Missouri House of Representatives, Ninety-second General Assembly, join unanimously to applaud the stellar season enjoyed by the Poplar Bluff Mules basketball team and to convey to all of those involved this legislative body's heartiest congratulations for earning the title of Class 5 State Champions and our best wishes for continued personal, academic, and athletic success for many more years to come; and

**Be it further resolved** that the Chief Clerk of the Missouri House of Representatives be instructed to prepare a properly inscribed copy of this resolution in honor of Emil Fernando, son of Joseph and Antoinette Fernando.

Offered by \_\_\_\_\_  
Representative Gayle Kingery  
District No. 154

I, Catherine L. Hanaway, Speaker of the House of Representatives, Ninety-second General Assembly, Second Regular Session, do certify that the above is a true and correct copy of House Resolution No. \_\_\_\_, adopted \_\_\_\_\_, 2004.

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Catherine L. Hanaway, Speaker